



a note from Commissioner J. Bryan Nicol

The State of Indiana is in a constant state of progress, and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is pleased to contribute to many of Indiana's success stories.

On behalf of the dedicated employees of the department, I am pleased to present our annual report, "The Crossroads of America". Last year proved to be a year full of challenges and accomplishments for INDOT. In this report you will find examples of how our employees pursued and achieved every one of INDOT's strategic goals during the past year.

Together we completed one of the most successful road construction projects in Indiana's history—Hyperfix 65/70. Innovative thinking, risk-taking, community outreach, communication, coordination, cooperation and dedication were required to complete this massive project amidst much fanfare in a record 55 days.

INDOT has also made great strides on developing the new route for I-69. In March 2004, the Federal Highway Administration issued a Record of Decision, approving INDOT's selected corridor for the route. This marked a major milestone in this important process. Once constructed, I-69 will serve as an economic development engine for southwest Indiana, prevent thousands of serious injuries and reduce travel time between Indianapolis and Evansville.

This report will show how our employees are *building, engineering, maintaining, operating, financing and connecting* Indiana's infrastructure every day, which is vital for our state's economy and overall quality of life.

This information and much more can also be accessed on our Web site at <http://www.in.gov/dot>. Thank you for taking an interest in Indiana's transportation system and our efforts to improve the Crossroads of America!

Sincerely,

J. Bryan Nicol